

REMARKS

Upon entry of the amendments in this response, claims 1 – 69 remain pending. In particular, Applicant has amended claims 14, 16, 48, 50. Reconsideration and allowance of the application and presently pending claims are respectfully requested.

In the Specification and Claims

As set forth above, several amendments are made to correct minor typographical mistakes in the original specification and claims. No new matter is added.

Election/Restriction Requirement

The Office Action alleged that the claims are directed to the following patentably distinct species:

1. Embodiment of Figures 2A-2B
2. Embodiment of Figures 3A-3C
3. Embodiment of Figures 4A-4F
4. Embodiment of Figures 5A-5F
5. Embodiment of Figures 6A-6B
6. Embodiment of Figures 7A-7B
7. Embodiment of Figures 9A-10B.

The Office Action also indicates that the Applicant is required to elect a single species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held allowable. Additionally, the Office Action indicates that no claim has been found to be generic. Applicant respectfully traverses the election; however, in order to comply with the requirement, Applicant provisionally elects the “species” of Figs. 2A and 2B for examination and also believes

that claim 1 is generic in view of Figs. 2A to 10B.

With respect to the species designation of the Office Action, Applicant respectfully asserts that two principal embodiments are disclosed in the specification. The first embodiment is a bonding pad structure as shown in Figs. 2A and 2B. Figs. 3A to 3C, 4A to 4F, 5A to 5F, 6A to 6B, 7A to 7B, and 9A to 10B show alternatives for elements, structures or connections of the bonding pad structure in Figs. 2A and 2B. The corresponding claims are claims 1-35. Applicant respectfully asserts that claim 1 is generic in view of Figs. 2A to 10B.

The second embodiment is also a bonding pad structure as shown in Figs. 11A and 11B. Figs. 12A to 12B, 13A to 13B, 14A and 14B show alternatives for elements, structures or connections of the bonding pad structure in Figs. 11A and 11B. The corresponding claims are claims 36-69. Applicant respectfully asserts that claim 36 is generic in view of Figs. 11A to 14B.

No fee is believed to be due in connection with this amendment and response. If, however, any fee is deemed to be payable, you are hereby authorized to charge any such fee to Deposit Account No. 20-0778.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Daniel R. McClure', written over a horizontal line.

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